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Daily Constitution... \$1.00 per month.
Weekly Constitution... \$1.00 per month.
Monthly Constitution... \$1.00 per month.
Southern Citizen... \$1.00 per month.
Southern Citizen and Col-
lector... \$1.00 per month.
Weekly Constitution and Col-
lector... \$1.00 per month.

Address: THE CONSTITUTION, Atlanta, Ga.

Entered as second-class matter in the Atlanta post-office, Dec. 11, 1879.

ATLANTA, GA., AUGUST 10, 1881.

The rate war between the east and west trunk lines is becoming fiercer at various points. In Indianapolis on last Monday the fare to New York ran rapidly down from \$14 to 75 cents, at which price hundreds of tickets were sold. A more stubborn rate war has not occurred in many years.

The president, we are assured, is getting on well; and yet his pulse and temperature are high. The flow of pus is, however, free and uninterrupted, and in this fact we must find all the hope there is in the case. A free flow of pus may be, however, sufficient to insure the president's recovery, for it is not reasonably well settled that the ball is lodged in the muscle of the back where it can do no great harm.

Good rains have fallen in nearly every part of the state. The amount of the rainfall of last week shows an average of nearly one inch and a half over the entire southern states. The eastern gulf states were fairly flooded, and the south Atlantic states were greatly favored. In Tennessee and the Ohio valley the fall was light, but the prospects for rain in all these sections are still good.

The bishop of Manchester has declined the deanship of Westminster, much to the surprise of the English people, who consider the vacant place more important than the right to wear lawn sleeves. The government will not have much trouble in finding a suitable man for the elevated position, and we may be sure that he will be a man in every way qualified to succeed the lamented Stanley—that is, if Mr. Gladstone is left free to fill the place.

The fast mail train brings the eastern mail with promptness, regularity and dispatch. The recent employment of a carrier to distribute the incoming carriage mail for delivery to the carriers immediately after arrival has greatly improved the efficiency of the local services; this writing we do not know whether or no the Richmond and Danville company will continue the fast mail train; but we are able to state that it decline to continue the train, other lines stand ready to give Atlanta a fast mail. Perhaps its arrival would not be quite so early; but it would do. We hope, however, that the service will not be changed.

A General Railroad Law.

A strong feeling is growing up in the state, in and out of the legislature, in favor of a general railroad law which will permit an association of individuals, or a railroad corporation already in existence, to build a railroad anywhere in the borders of Georgia, either a branch road or an entirely new road upon unclaimed and under certain carefully arranged requirements, and under certain restrictions, of course reserving to corporations already in existence vested rights.

This system has worked well in N.Y. since 1850. Has been amended as experience dictated from session to session until it has grown into a harmonious code of railway law. Alabama, Texas, Florida, Maryland, Nebraska, and other states have adopted well considered laws, and in these states railway development has been wonderfully stimulated and the legislatures relieved of much tedious labor.

At this time, when capital is seeking railway investment in the state, it is the dictate of wisdom to let it liberal legislation. It is a difficult, tedious and expensive work to get a railway charter under the provisions of the constitution in relation to local or special legislation. Such charters are liable to pass without such careful scrutiny as would be given to a general law. A general law would relieve the railroad committees and the two houses of mass of labor each session. Over 20 charters have already been applied for at this session.

The legislature meets but once in two years. During the time between two sessions, project for construction of a railroad may attract the attention of capital, and the legislature may be told what they can go to work at once—without they must wait until the legislature convenes.

Carefully prepared general law could be amended as experience dictated until at last we would have a systematic code of railway law relieving our state legislature of a vast amount of labor, and protecting the interests of the people far more effectively than now, besides removing the embarrassments in the way of the investment of capital.

We hope this legislation, so satisfactory in other states, certain to benefit our people, and to injure no individual and no interest, and sanctioned by the popular sentiment throughout the state, will be adopted at the present session.

Governor Colquitt and His Record.

There are certain men in Georgia who continually denounce and abuse Governor Colquitt.

They take advantage of every petty mishap to raise a howl, and "utterly ignore the grand results of his administration." They hope, by administration. They hope, by drawing attention to some trifling detail, to bring about the downfall of the administration of Governor Colquitt's wise rule, the taxes have been lowered, expenses reduced in every department, and the state happy at home and honored abroad as it has never been before. But they will not succeed. The object of their venom is strong in the hearts of his people. He has been elected twice after bitter contests—one over 70,000 majority, and again over 50,000. If he should wish to make a third race—as we believe to know he will not—he would receive a verdict less more overwhelming than those already recorded.

It must look very gloomy in the south to a man who has been defeated for office by his political enemies. But he is a prominent and capable administrator. But noise proves nothing. Edmund Burke never said a word that thing, when he said, "A half a dozen greenhorns and make the field." The next election will be a

"thousand of great cattle, repose beneath the English oaks, chew their cud and are silent, do not imagine that those who make the noise are the only inhabitants of the field, or that they are many in number—or that after all they are other than the loud and troublesome insects of the hour."

As for THE CONSTITUTION, it has done some service, but it has never done anything to which it looked with more pride or satisfaction than with its took in the election of Governor Colquitt. In coming years his administration will be esteemed among the very wisest and best that ever blessed the state, and his memory honored as a Christian patriot and statesman. The essential results of his rule, which have brought peace, prosperity and contentment, will be remembered after petticoats have been forgotten—just as the divine works of the people, progressive and everlasting, will bring the world through the ages.

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